

November 8, 2002

Mr. John L. Skolds, President  
Exelon Nuclear  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

SUBJECT: RELIEF REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE TESTING OF CONTAINMENT SUMP  
SUCTION VALVES 1/2SI8811A/B FOR BYRON STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2,  
AND BRAIDWOOD STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. MB6638, MB6639,  
MB6636 AND MB6637)

Dear Mr. Skolds:

Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon) is requesting Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approval of a proposed alternative to the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components," ASME/ANSI OMA-1988, "Operations and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants," 1987 Edition through the 1988 Addenda, Part 10, Section 4.2.1.1 for the Braidwood and Byron Stations. The NRC staff received the relief request on October 31, 2002, and Exelon requested a completion date by March 1, 2003. This provides us a review period of only 4 months.

The NRC performance goals for licensing actions is to complete 95 percent in less than one year and 100 percent in less than two years. The NRC staff finds your proposed target date for completion of our review to be aggressive, but the NRC staff will endeavor to complete its review consistent with the proposed schedule.

The NRC faces significant challenges in balancing its workload, available resources, and budget constraints to achieve its performance goals. Accordingly, it is important that you plan your submittals to enable the NRC staff to perform its review in an efficient manner consistent with our performance goals and your schedule.

Please contact me at (301) 415-8371 if you have any questions on this issue.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Mahesh Chawla, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. STN 50-454, STN 50-455,  
STN 50-456, and STN 50-457

cc: See next page

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Docket Nos. STN 50-454, STN 50-455,  
STN 50-456, and STN 50-457

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